

**Draft Summary of the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group Meeting
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)
September 27, 2004**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) hosted a meeting (via conference call) for the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group (LUWG) on September 27, 2004.

A summary of the discussion, decisions made, and action items is provided below. This summary is not intended to be a transcript, analysis of the meeting, or to indicate agreement or disagreement with any of the items summarized, except where expressly stated. The intent is to present a summary for interested parties who could not attend the meeting. The following are attachments to this summary:

Attachment 1	Meeting Agenda
Attachment 2	Meeting Attendees
Attachment 3	Existing DFG Management Conditions (Revised Write-Up for Final Study Report L-2 errata or addendum)

Introduction

Attendees were welcomed to the LUWG meeting. Attendees introduced themselves and their affiliations. The LUWG reviewed the desired outcomes of the meeting and the draft agenda. The meeting agenda and list of meeting attendees are appended to this summary as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively.

Action Items – August 23, 2004 LUWG Meeting

A summary of the August 23, 2004 LUWG meeting is posted on the relicensing web site. The Facilitator reviewed the status of action items from that meeting as follows:

Action Item #LU108: Attach the new cultural-related resource action to the August 2004 LUWG meeting notes and post to the relicensing web site. (Follow-up to Action Item #107)

Status: Jim Martin (DWR) indicated that the cultural-related resource action has been posted to the relicensing web site. He also clarified that Janice Offerman (DWR Resource Area Manager for cultural resources) is handling this resource action through the Cultural Resources Work Group.

Action Item #LU109: Develop a standard description of the current management situation at the OWA for use by the PDEA Team.

Status: Mark Greenig (EDAW) prepared and distributed in advance of the meeting a description of the current management situation at the OWA, which provides an update to the description included in the final report for Study L-2 (see Attachment 3). This description was reviewed and approved internally by DWR. It is intended to replace the third paragraph of Section 5.3.3.2. Andy Atkinson (DFG) clarified that most recreation opportunities at the OWA are provided under the management of DFG via its current management agreement and are generally compatible with wildlife objectives. He clarified that there are developed recreation facilities currently managed by DWR in the OWA, including the Monument Hill and Larkin Road day-use areas, which were developed in response to mandates by FERC. Andy agreed to provide text that describes the distinction between DFG- and DWR-managed recreation opportunities in the OWA. He further clarified that it is DFG's position that if DFG cannot provide a presence at the OWA due to staffing limitations, then DWR would assume complete responsibility for all recreation at the OWA. He also commented that lack of a DFG presence is resulting in adverse impacts on resource conditions at the OWA. The LUWG discussed staffing objectives at other similar DFG-managed wildlife areas. The new language explains that it is the goal of DFG

to have 1 staff person per 1,000 acres of DFG-managed lands, regardless of the “type” (or classification) of wildlife area. It was noted that these standards are rarely being met throughout the state. Mark Greenig will prepare additional language that addresses these staffing standards and puts them into context, including information on the size, type, and use levels for other comparable DFG managed wildlife areas. Participants suggested that other sections of the report, including Section 5.5.3, be reviewed for consistency with the proposed text changes. Because this write-up was prepared in response to comments on the final report for Study L-2 (Land Management), the proposed text edits will be incorporated via an errata sheet or addendum to the final report. With the suggested revisions, the LUWG agreed that the new language more accurately describes the current management challenges of the OWA.

Action Item #LU110: Research water-level fluctuation and power operations at the Thermalito Afterbay for inclusion in the Final Study SP-L4 (Aesthetics).

Status: Mark Greenig (EDAW) has been working with Curtis Creel (DWR) to clarify the operational criteria at the Thermalito Afterbay and the related effects on water levels. Mark has prepared a write-up summarizing his findings, which is currently being reviewed by DWR. He read the summary to the LUWG and the participants agreed that it more accurately represented current conditions and observed Afterbay water level fluctuations. Once the write-up is finalized by DWR, it will be distributed to the LUWG and included in the Final L-4 Study Report via an errata sheet or addendum to clarify the information currently presented in the report.

Study Implementation Update / Report Review

All five final Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics studies have been distributed and reviewed by the LUWG. DWR reminded the LUWG that all comments on the final study reports should be provided in writing. All errata/addendum materials for the study reports will be posted to the relicensing web site.

Next Meeting and Next Steps

The September 2004 meeting represented the final regularly scheduled LUWG meeting. Future meetings may be scheduled on an “as-needed” basis if the LUWG is needed to address specific land use issues raised at the settlement negotiations table. The Facilitator thanked the participants for their focused efforts over the past four years and commended them on successfully completing their collaborative tasks.

Action Items

The following list of action items identified by the LUWG includes a description of the action, the participant responsible for the action, and item status.

Action Item #LU111: Provide text that describes the distinction between DFG- and DWR-managed recreation opportunities in the OWA.

Responsible: Andy Atkinson (DFG)

Due Date: October 2004

Action Item #LU112: Research DFG staffing standards and prepare additional text to describe staffing at the OWA into context relative to other comparable wildlife areas.

Responsible: Consultant Team

Due Date: October 2004

Action Item #LU113: Use the write-up pertaining to Thermalito Afterbay water level fluctuations as information for preparation of an errata or addendum to Final Study L-4 (Aesthetics). (Follow-up to action item #LU110)

Responsible: Consultant Team

Due Date: October 2004